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CIA's Man In Portland Keeps Mum On Mission

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Behind an unmarked door on the fourth floor of the U.S. Courthouse sits an affable man with a quick smile. He is a former FBI agent.

He introduces himself as "J.S. Bailey."

He is in charge of Portland's two-man Central Intelligence Agency office.

What he does or why he's there are questions he can't answer. "I'm sorry," he says. Bailey can't even say how long the CIA has had an office in Portland (It's been here for several years). CIA regulations prohibit giving out any information.

While Bailey says the CIA doesn't try to hide the fact that it has an office here, it doesn't advertise it either. CIA is not listed in the Portland telephone book nor the government agencies telephone book nor is there any notation anywhere that it has an office in the courthouse.

Private Number

The office does have a telephone, but the number is listed under a private name.

What an external security organization (the FBI is charged with internal security) is doing in Portland is among the questions Bailey smiles at and says, "Sorry" in reply.

While the CIA is an external security organization and is prohibited by law from engaging in internal security functions, the agency is also prohibited by law from disclosing publicly what its functions are.

It is thought that Bailey's partner is more of a personnel man than a CIA operative. One reliable source said the man's prime responsibility is recruiting persons to work for CIA.

What Bailey does is another matter.

Duty Suggested

One source said part of his

responsibility was keeping track of foreign nationals coming through Portland.

Another task he is thought to have assigned to him is talking with immigrants from various countries to clean the bits and pieces of information that go into an overall intelligence "picture." Obviously, among the CIA's prime interests are the Communist bloc nations and immigrants from these areas receive more attention than those from less sensitive areas.

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